

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

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R 300932Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4468
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY RANGOON

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, VS

SUBJECT: JAPAN HALVING STAFF IN SAIGON

REF: TOKYO 15111

1. NEGATIVE ATMOSPHERE IN TALKS WITH SVN REP IN HANOI (REFTEL)
LED GOJ TO DECIDE TO HALVE ITS STAFF IN SAIGON TO FOUR
PERSONS WITHIN IMMEDIATE FUTURE. (ONE STAFFER SCHEDULED TO
DEPART SAIGON TODAY, OCT 30.) FOUR WHO REMAIN WILL WORK FOR
REPATRIATION OF JAPANESE RESIDENTS STILL IN SVN. ABOUT FORTY
JAPANESE, MANY OF WHOM ARE MARRIED TO VIETNAMESE, WISH TO
RETURN TO JAPAN.

2. FIRST SE ASIA DIVDIR ITO REGARDS "NORMALIZATION" WITH
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RSVN AS IMPOSSIBLE SINCE SVN IS NOW SIMPLY UNDER NVN MILITARY

OCCUPATION. ITO ALSO CONFIRMED TO US PRESS REPORTS THAT SOUTH VIETNAMESE IN EFFECT TOLD JAPANESE THAT "AS MATTER OF DIPLOMATIC COURTESY" JAPAN SHOULD LIQUIDATE ITS RELATIONS WITH THE FORMER SAIGON REGIME BY RECALLING ITS EMBASSY STAFF. ITO INDICATED THAT FINAL FOUR STAFFERS MIGHT NOT STAY LONG IN SAIGON.

3. COMMENT: TREATMENT OF JAPANESE ADDS EVIDENCE, IF ANY IS REQUIRED, THAT HANOI IS ATTEMPTING TO TIGHTEN QUICKLY ITS AUTHORITY IN SVN AND FOREIGN DIPLOMATIC PRESENCE IS NOT WELCOME TO VIEW THE PROCESS. DESIRE OF OTHER JAPANESE RESIDENTS TO DEPART SVN PRESUMABLY REFLECTS INCREASINGLY INHOSPITABLE ATMOSPHERE IN SAIGON TO FOREIGN BUSINESS INTERESTS AS WELL.

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